

**NEW ENGLAND LABORERS'/CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACADEMY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**June 11, 2013**

**12:00 P.M. Executive Session**

**Public Session Immediately Following**

**4 Sharpe Drive**

**MINUTES**

**This meeting of the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy was held on the above date in the conference room and called to order at 12:05 p.m. with the following members present: Chairperson Traficante, Dr. Lundsten, Mr. Santangelo, Ms. Oberlander, Mr. Sabitoni, and Dr. Leone. Absent were Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Rampone and Mr. Cardi.**

**This meeting was called to order; the roll was called. It was noted there was a quorum present.**

**Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) Approved – May 21, 2013**

**Moved by Mr. Sabitoni, seconded by Mr. Santangelo; all were in favor.**

**Public Acknowledgements/Communications – none.**

**Chairperson's Communications –**

**Mr. Traficante stated – about two to three weeks ago the Cranston Herald published an editorial, a great article, on the CAC&TC regarding their hands-on approach type program and curriculum. I read the article and I contacted Faith Orabona from The Laborers' Media and Public Relationships department and drafted a response to the article basically complimenting the Cranston Career & Technical Center as well as the New England Laborers' for their hands-on approach and curriculum as well. (See handout #1 – on file in the Superintendent's office).**

**Job Placement Report of 2012-2013 NEL/CPS and AEP Students – (see handout #2 – on file in the Superintendent's office). Mr. Traficante commended the staff for placing these students in employment.**

**Grant opportunity – Mrs. Corcelli stated – twenty-two students (ages 14-18) are eligible for this opportunity. They will have a 20 hour work week, OSHA training will be every Monday. It is a six week program with subsidized employment with minimum wage and going to school for one day a week to study math and reading.**

### **3. Executive Director's Communications**

**Monthly update on the budget**

**Newsletter – (see handout #3 – on file in the Superintendent's office). This is the last newsletter for this school year.**

## **Update on Focus School Status/Diagnostic Screening**

**Mr. Curran stated – since we last met we had a meeting at RIDE with Andrea Castenada, one of the chiefs at RIDE. Mr. Traficante, me and Jeannine Nota, the assistant superintendent, attended this meeting as part of our focus plan. This was not recharter but the focus piece and we had to review it at that meeting, the status of our intervention plans. This is a quarterly responsibility that we have as a focus school. We had submitted to them previous to that meeting a 35 page document which detailed the status of our plans, data background, every intervention and a very thorough review of the success to date and certainly plans for the future with this focus school classification. We also had the opportunity to have some good give and take with Andrea about going forward and what can we expect from RIDE, what supports can they continue to give us and it was a very positive meeting. At the end of the meeting Andrea said she was really pulling and cheering for this school based upon the work we have done to date and the work that lies ahead of us. She began the meeting in fact by being very complimentary and said of all the schools that they are working with in priority and focus, our report and response has been the most thorough that they have seen. Our next quarter report is due to them on August 15, 2013. How we finish the year, end of the year data will be included in that report and then any changes that might occur (staffing) would be included in that report also.**

**The state just did its' reclassification of schools and they are holding off on releasing the new classifications until June 28th.**

**On the focus school front and the diagnostic screen front I would say we are doing very well and I expect that the August report we are going to see that the data that we give to RIDE is going to be very positive data in terms of how we're doing this year. I believe, based on our trending, think we will see a decrease in suspensions, decrease in drop-out rate, we will see an increase in graduation rate, and hopefully we will see a decrease in chronic absenteeism. Those are four of the metrics that they really zone in on.**

#### **August 20th retreat**

**Mr. Curran continued – I want to mention to you again the August 20th retreat date for this board. As you know, since we are entering the recharter year next year, we really have to get the board to be as involved as we can with that work and we need to have a good two to three hours on that date as a board to review the various aspects of the rechartering process, that afternoon from 12 to 4 p.m. on the 20th. More information will be forthcoming before that date.**

**I reached out to the RIDE Office of Transformation and asked them if they could give me a calendar for when we might be in the review process for their visit and I have been asking for two months now and they still do not have an answer yet. There are three schools up for recharter, we are one of the three and I appealed to them to put us**

last in the chain because we just went through this two years ago. I will let you know when I know.

Operating Budget as of 5/31/2013 (see handout #4 - on file in the Superintendent's office).

Mrs. Corcelli reviewed the current budget with the board members. She stated she expects a moderate surplus for this school year. Mr. Traficante stated you will see a final budget in August (we will not be having a meeting in July).

Operating Budget for 2013-2014 (attached to the agenda)

Mrs. Corcelli stated – a draft was given to you last month. The only change is the adult ed revenue, that was increased by \$2,000. This is a very lean budget and a very good budget and is based on 172 students as of the March 14th data we submitted to RIDE. Going forward with our recruitment efforts we feel this is a healthy budget.

Mr. Curran stated – we had a change in going forward going into next year- a couple of the salary lines that is reflective in change in responsibilities for two positions here. The first one is the recruiter position. Presently our recruiter also does some work in the school in discipline and going forward into the next year we are taking that responsibility away from him. He will not be working at all with any discipline fashion and we are reducing the salary for that position by \$5,000 accordingly. That position was at \$40,000 it will now be at \$35,000. Concurrent to that, we have had the fiscal manager position here for a number of years and next year we want to change that

position and transform it into a true financial development director position. Charter Schools in Rhode Island have this position and we have never had this position. The difference between the two largely is the financial development director goes out looking for revenue streams and I think we've been probably sitting back over the years and letting the money come to us and we have to be more aggressive. We have to find grants out there. We have to find philanthropic groups, we have to look at some kind of benefits to bring a revenue stream into this school particularly as we go forward because we are going to find that there are going to be fewer revenues out there for us to achieve. This position is really a transformation of that from a fiscal manager to being a person who is going out and looking for funding for this school. The position ultimately will pay for itself and then some so what we are looking at there is an increase from the current salary for that position of fiscal manager at \$60,000 to \$70,000 to be financial development director for the school. We anticipate that is going to create a lot more revenue for us then we have seen in the past. Those are the two changes in next years' budget that are different from this year.

**Adult Education Programs (see handout #5 - on file in the Superintendent's office).**

**Ms. Dzekevich read from her report.**

**Cranston's Finest**

**Mr. Traficante stated – this is a program that we started back in the**

80's where we recognized any and all Cranston students. Two of our students were recognized, Jamieson Grudzinski and Sean Tougas. The mayor did not invite the administrators. However, Dr. Lundsten stated she has since spoken with the mayor and we will be invited to attend next year.

A motion to accept the director's report was made by Dr. Leone; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

### **Public Hearing**

a. Students (agenda/non-agenda matters) - none

b. Members of the Public (agenda matters only) - none

At 12:35 p.m. the board convened (with the arrival of Mr. Votto) to Executive Session pursuant to: R.I. State Law: PL 42-46-5(a)(1)

### **Personnel**

a. (Renewal of Contract – Administrator)

At 12:42 p.m. public session reconvened.

Executive Session Minutes Sealed – June 11, 2013. A motion to seal these minutes was made by Mr. Sabitoni; seconded by Dr. Leone. All were in favor.

Mr. Traficante stated no votes were taken in Executive Session and the individual whose contract was being discussed was notified.

## **Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) Approved – May 21, 2013**

**Board Members Communications - none**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Personnel**

**No. 5-1-13 - Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Board of Directors, the appointment of the Clerk to the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy be approved.**

**Mr. Traficante entertained nominations for the position of clerk to the NEL/CPS Board of Directors. Dr. Leone nominated Joseph Sabitoni for this position. There were no other nominations. Dr. Leone made a motion to accept the nomination of Mr. Joseph Sabitoni; seconded by Dr. Lundsten. All were in favor.**

**No. 5-2-13- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Board of Directors, the appointment of Chairperson to the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy be approved.**

**Mr. Sabitoni stated – at this time I would like to nominate Michael Traficante as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy. There were no other nominations. A motion to close the nominations and appoint Mr. Traficante as Chairperson was made by Dr. Leone and seconded by Dr. Lundsten.**

**All were in favor.**

**No. 5-3-13 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, said certified personnel be recalled from layoff, and**

**Be it further resolved that the Executive Director notify those individuals of the Board's actions.**

**A motion to approve this resolution was made by Mr. Santangelo; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.**

**No. 5-4-13 – Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, said administrator be renewed commencing on the first day of July 2011 and ending the thirtieth day of June 2014:**

**Gayle Dzekevich, Assistant Director, AEP (Adult Education Program)**

**Contract effective date: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014**

**Grant funded – see attached Financial Impact Analysis**

**An amendment was made to change Assistant Director to Director. Moved by Mr. Sabitoni; seconded by Dr. Lundsten. All were in favor.**

**A motion to approve the resolution as amended was made by Mr. Sabitoni; seconded by Dr. Lundsten. All were in favor.**

## **BUSINESS**

**No. 5-5-13- Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive**

**Director the budget for 2013-2014 be approved. (See attached).**

**A motion to accept this resolution was made by Dr. Leone; seconded by Mr. Santangelo. All were in favor.**

## **POLICIES AND PROGRAMS**

**No. 5-6-13 - Resolved, that at the recommendation of the Executive Director, the following Mission Statement be approved:**

**"Our school community fosters respect, responsibility and motivation, by constructing pathways that inspire hope and confidence to meet the challenges of a global society."**

**A motion to accept this resolution was made by Dr. Leone; seconded by Mr. Santangelo. All were in favor.**

**Public Hearings on Non-Agenda Items – none.**

**Announcement of Future Meetings – next meeting will be August 20, 2013. We will also incorporate our Board Retreat in this time frame 12-4 p.m.**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Santangelo; seconded by Dr. Lundsten. All were in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michael A. Traficante**  
**Chairperson**

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**Year Name Position Salary Health Dental Life Pension TIAA Disability**  
**SB FICA Medicare Tot. Fringe Sal & Fringe**

**2011-2012 Dzekevich,**  
**Gayle Director 79,100.55 13,463.52 954.61 35.10 4,494.10 0.00 0.00 0.0**  
**0 4,596.96 1,075.50 24,619.79 103,720.34**

**2012-2013 Dzekevich,**  
**Gayle Director 78,982.00 14,819.09 1,072.03 33.00 8,087.75 0.00 0.00 0.**

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2013-2014 Dzekevich,

Gayle Director 78,982.00 14,819.09 1,072.03 33.00 8,087.75 0.00 0.00 0.

00 4,896.89 1,145.24 30,054.00 109,036.00